planned to develop various airports in Karnataka other than Bangalore as detailed below:

Belgaum airport—Expansion of runway, construction of a new terminal building and associated facilities for operation of A-320 type of aircrafts. Taking up of the development work is contigent upon handing, over 370 acres of additional land to AAI by the State Government.

Hubli airport—Expansion of runway for operation of A-320 type of aircraft, new terminal building and associated facilities. Taking up of upgradation work and preparation of budget estimates are contigent upon handing over of requisite additional land to AAI by the State Government.

Mangalore airport—Construction of a new integrated terminal building for 500 passengers near beginning of runway 06 alongwith associated apron and taxiway. This is likely to be completed in 18 months after award of the contract.

Mysore—Development of airport for operation of ATR-72 type of aircrafts at a cost of Rs. 89.29 crore. The work is likely to be completed by April, 2008.

(c) The second runway 06/24 of dimensions 2450m x 45m has been constructed and commissioned in May, 2006.

(d) Its runway needs to be expanded and terminal building capacity augmented and some more facilities provided before it is declared as an international airport. Mangalore airport is already a Customs airport and the existing Terminal Building is having required facilities for handling limited international flights.

Expansion of airports at Mysore and Bellary

2274. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka has requested for revival and expansion of the Airports at Mysore and Bellary; and

(b) if so, the details of each proposal and the Central response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVILAVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Government of Karnataka on 6th October, 2005 and accordingly AAI has undertaken development of Mysore Airport for operation of ATR-72 type of aircrafts.

The Bellary airport is presently not fit for commercial operation. However, for its rejuvenation a meeting was recently held in the Ministry of Civil Aviation with the representatives of the Karnataka State Government and AAI. An AAI team is being sent to the site to explore the possibilities of making the airport operational.

Expansion of Hubli Airport

2275. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Airports Authority of India has agreed to expand the Hubli Airport in Karnataka to facilitate operation of bigger flights;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government of Karnataka has requested for development of Hubli Airport as an International Airport considering Hubli's status as a high industrial and commercial growth centre and its strategic location as a gateway to tourism centres in the Northern part of Karnataka and to facilitate the balanced development of the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the Centre's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVILAVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has requested Government of Karnataka to provide additonal land for upgrading Hubli airport in phases, initially for extension of runway to cater to operation of A320 type of aircrafts alongwith new integrated Terminal Building and subsequently for wide bodies aircraft operations with associated infrastructure. A joint survey of the additional land by AAI and the District Administration has been carried out in June, 2006 and revised master Plan avoiding fully built up area has been forwarded to Government of Karnataka for confirmation of additional land availability,